

The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

CONTACTS: Jared Touchin, Communications Director (928) 274-4275 Crystalyne Curley, Sr. Public Information Officer

nnopvp.communications@gmail.com

(928) 274-2758

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Navajo Nation pays tribute to Diné Warriors on Veterans Day

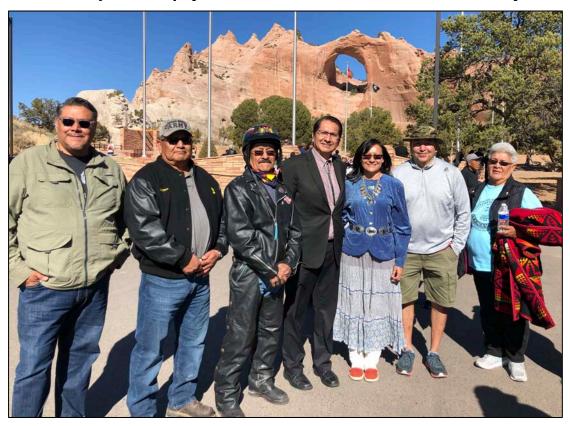


PHOTO: Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and First Lady Phefelia Nez with Navajo veterans during the Veterans Day Celebration at the Navajo Nation Veterans Memorial Park in Window Rock.

WINDOW ROCK – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, Vice President Myron Lizer, First Lady Phefelia Nez, and Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne were joined by Navajo veterans, youth, elders, dignitaries, and families on Monday, to commemorate Veterans Day during an honorary event at the Navajo Nation Veterans Memorial Park in Window Rock – the capital of the Navajo Nation.

During his keynote address, President Nez delivered a heartfelt message of appreciation to all Navajo veterans, their families, and communities, several of which were recognized at the event.

Today, the Navajo people continue to serve in Armed Forces at a higher rate than the national participation rate.

"On behalf of the Nez-Lizer Administration, it is my honor to deliver this message in recognition and remembrance of the thousands of Navajo veterans who have served our country in every branch of the Armed Services. We honor the sacrifices of our military men and women who fought for our freedom and sacrificed. We are also very proud to have many of our Diné people who continue to serve around the world," said President Nez.

On Oct. 30, President Nez was joined by the members of the 24th Navajo Nation Council, and Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne, during the U.S. Navy's Authentication of the Keel Ceremony of the U.S. Navy's first of class towing and salvage vessel, "USNS Navajo (T-ATS 6)" in Houma, La.

President Nez added, "Your service is being recognized and honored throughout the country, and we will continue to stand beside you in support."

During the event, Vice President said, "Many of us have family members and relatives who serve in the Armed Forces around the world. We have mothers, fathers, brothers, and sisters that sacrificed time to defend our Nation. As leaders, we pray for hope, healing, and love for you and your families."

Also, in attendance at the ceremony was the Navajo Nation Band, Nation Nation Veterans Administration Executive Director James D. Zwierlein, Division of Human Resources Executive Director Dr. Perphelia Fowler, Miss Navajo Nation Shaandiin Parrish, Miss Ft. Defiance Veterans Agency Princess Aysha Catron – Tsosie, and representatives of U.S. Sen. Tom Udall, U.S. Sen. Martin Heinrich, Congressman Ben Ray Luján.

On behalf of the Office of the President and Vice President, we ask our Navajo People to join us in prayer to give thanks for our Navajo veterans.

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